(*b*) if so, the action taken thereon so far?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU :—" (*a*) Yes. Sri A. Gopalaswamy has made an application to the Collector of South Arcot in the matter.

" (*b*) It is under the consideration of the Collector of South Arcot."

SRI M. JAGANNATHAN :—" Though a delay of more than three years has occurred in this particular case, may I know why the Government are moving so very slowly in the matter? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU :—" It is not the Government that is moving slowly. On the other hand, it is the applicant that is moving slowly. He paid the certification fee of Rs. 2 only on the 10th June 1955. He has not paid the value of the land which will be another couple of rupees. As soon as he pays that, the matter will be put through."

Maintenance cost of metal and superior black-top roads.

* 2030 *Q.*—SRI K. ARANGANATHAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state the average cost of maintaining (i) a metal road and (ii) a superior black-top road per mile per year?

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" The information [a] is placed on the table of the House."

SRI K. ARANGANATHAN :—" Is it a fact that from the amount allotted for black-topping of the surface of roads in the South Arcot district, a sum of Rs. 6 lakhs has been cut off? If so, may I request the Government to consider the condition of South Arcot sympathetically and sanction that sum? "

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" A separate question may be given notice of."

SRI S. DAIVASIGAMONEY :—" I find from the statement placed on the table of the House that forming of roads with black-topped surface and asphaltic concrete surface is comparatively cheaper than forming of roads with metalled surface. May I know why the Government are still adhering to the formation of metalled surface roads in certain areas and why they have not given it up? "

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" Only the cost of maintenance is compared here. The initial cost is different."

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[a] Printed as Appendix IV on page 839 infra.